UNITED
NATIONS

E

Economic and Social Council

Distr.
LIMITED

E/AC.51/1997/L.4/Add.26
26 June 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME
AND COORDINATION
Thirty-seventh session
9 June-3 July 1997
Agenda item 8

DRAFT REPORT

Rapporteur: Mrs. Sharon BRENNEN-HAYLOCK (Bahamas)

Addendum

PROGRAMME QUESTIONS: PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1998-1999 (item 4 (a))

Section 24. Palestine refugees

1. At its 18th meeting, on 23 June 1997, the Committee considered section 24, Palestine refugees, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999 (A/52/6 (Sect. 24)).

Discussion

2. Many delegations expressed firm support for the activities carried out by the programme and expressed the hope that the parties concerned would resume negotiations. A number of delegations stressed the importance of the programme, in particular as it related to the framework of the peace process. Some delegations welcomed the cooperation between the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) and the World Health Organization (WHO) and with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). Some delegations expressed a high degree of regard for the staff of UNRWA and encouraged them to continue to support the execution of the Agency's programmes. The same delegations expressed the hope that the necessary resources for implementation of the programme could be guaranteed. One delegation commented on the detailed and clear presentation of the programme of work of the section and encouraged the Secretary-General to

ensure that adequate regular budget and extrabudgetary resources be provided to the section. One delegation, while indicating the commitment accorded by his Government to the activities of UNRWA and the vital role it played on the issue of Palestine refugees, said that section 24 did not mention efforts made for the further streamlining of the Agency's activities.

Conclusions and recommendations

3. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it approve the programme narrative for section 24, Palestine refugees, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999.